

REMARKS

Claims 1 and 13 have been amended, while claims 4-5, 14, and 17-20 have been canceled without prejudice. Claims 21-27 have been added. In view of the foregoing amendments and the following remarks, Applicant respectfully requests allowance of the subject application.

ALLOWABLE SUBJECT MATTER

In the current Action, the Office indicates that claims 4 and 14 recite allowable subject matter and would be allowed if rewritten in independent form. Office Action of 12/11/2007, p. 13-14. Applicant sincerely thanks the Office for this indication. Applicant notes that claim 4 has been included in independent claim 1, while claim 14 has been included in independent claim 13.

As such, Applicant respectfully submits that claims 1-3, 6-13, and 15-16 stand allowable.

NEW CLAIMS

In the current Response, Applicant has added claims 21-27. Applicant notes that independent claim 1 comprises a system claim that includes each limitation of claim 1. Furthermore, dependent claims 22-27 comprise system claims that include each limitation of dependent claims 2-3 and 6-9, respectively.

Therefore, Applicant respectfully submits that these claims stand allowable for reasons similar to those discussed above with regards to claims 1-3 and 6-9.

CLAIM OBJECTIONS

Claim 5 stands objected to as allegedly being vague and unclear. Office Action, p. 2. Applicant respectfully disagrees. Nevertheless, for the sole purpose of placing this application in condition for allowance and without conceding the propriety of the objection, Applicant has canceled this claim.

Applicant therefore respectfully requests that the objection be withdrawn.

§ 112 REJECTIONS

Claim 5 also stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph as allegedly failing to comply with the enablement requirement. Office Action, p. 2. Applicant respectfully disagrees. Nevertheless, for the sole purpose of placing this application in condition for allowance and without conceding the propriety of the rejection, Applicant has canceled this claim.

Applicant therefore respectfully requests that the rejection be withdrawn.

§§ 102 AND 103 REJECTIONS

Claims 1-2, 7, 9-10, 13, 15, and 17-18 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as allegedly being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,434,520 to Kanevsky et al. (hereinafter, “Kanevsky”).

Claim 3 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as allegedly being obvious over Kanevsky in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,436,653 to Ellis et al. (hereinafter, “Ellis”).

Claims 5 and 6 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as allegedly being obvious over Kanevsky in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,737,734 to Schultz (hereinafter, “Schultz”).

Claim 8 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as allegedly being obvious over Kanevsky in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,675,174 to Bolle et al. (hereinafter, “Bolle”).

Claim 11 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as allegedly being obvious over Kanevsky in view Ellis.

Claims 12 and 16 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as allegedly being obvious over Kanevsky.

Claims 19 and 20 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as allegedly being obvious over Kanevsky in view Ellis.

Applicant respectfully traverses the rejections. Nevertheless, for the sole purpose of placing this application in condition for allowance and without conceding the propriety of the rejections, Applicant has amended independent claims 1 and 14 as discussed above. Furthermore, Applicant has canceled independent claim 17 as well as dependent claims 18-20.

Applicant therefore respectfully requests that the rejections be withdrawn.

CONCLUSION

For at least the foregoing reasons, all pending claims are in condition for allowance. Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections and an early notice of allowance. If any issue remains unresolved that would prevent allowance of this case, Applicant respectfully requests the Office to contact the undersigned attorney to resolve the issue.

Respectfully Submitted,

Lee & Hayes, PLLC
421 W. Riverside Avenue, Suite 500
Spokane, WA 99201

Dated: 2008/03/31

/Robert G. Hartman/
Robert G. Hartman
Reg. No. 58,970
(509) 324-9256 ext. 265